

REMARKS

At the outset the applicants wish to express their appreciation to the Examiner for the very thorough examination accorded the instant application and for the helpful suggestions pertaining to formal matters in the application.

By the present amendment, the applicants have amended the specification at page 1 by deleting the continuity date appearing before the title and inserting the more appropriate continuity data suggested by the Examiner following the title. The Examiner requested copies of the certified English translations of the Japanese priority applications which are submitted herewith.

In paragraph 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner requested that the term "as a major component" be deleted from Claim 7 since Claim 7 is closed by "consists" language. The applicants respectfully wish to keep the language "as a major component" in Claim 7 and have therefore amended the claim by deleting "consists of" and adding "comprises." Similar amendments have also been made to claims 8 to 22. Claims 7, 9 11 and 16 have also been amended to correct the typographical errors pointed out in paragraph 7 of the Office Action.

In the Office Action the Examiner rejected Claims 1 to 3 and 7 as being obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 2,807,155, to Williamitis, in view of U.S. Patent No. Re. 19,265, to Midgley, Jr. et al, and U.S. Patent No. 4,178,765 to Slayton.

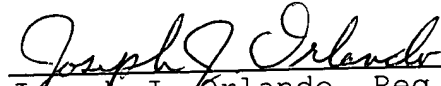
The Examiner maintains that Williamitis teaches a refrigerator fluid composition containing a refrigerant as disclosed in Midgley, Jr. et al and a refrigerator oil described as pentaerythritol tetraester of a specified chemical formula. The Examiner also indicates that Midgley, Jr. et al shows that the refrigerant can be a chlorine-free fluorocarbon. It is true that the Williamitis reference at Column 2, lines 23-26 states that the refrigerant used "preferably comprises a fluoro halo derivative of an aliphatic hydrocarbon of the character disclosed" in Midgley, Jr. et al (Re 19,265). However, the applicants wish to point out to the Examiner that the refrigerants actually specified by Williamitis are Freon 11, Freon 12 and Freon 22 (Patent, Column 2, lines 27-29), which are chlorine-type fluorocarbon refrigerants. Nowhere in the Williamitis reference is there a hint or suggestion that other than the actually used Freon 11, Freon 12 or Freon 22 refrigerants could be used together with the pentaerythritol tetraester oil. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Williamitis does not, in fact, teach a refrigerator composition containing a chlorine-free fluorocarbon refrigerant.

This same argument concerning the non-applicability of the Williamitis reference also attaches to the Examiner's obviousness rejection of Claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 16, 17 and 21 and the obviousness rejection of claims 5, 10, 13-15, 18-20, and 22.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1 to 22 are patentable over the cited references and should therefore be allowed so that the case may be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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